

January 16, 1992 LB 671, 1123-1126

afternoon, for new bills. So they may still be able to do some of them after that time, but they won't guarantee them if they come in after five o'clock on Friday. So that is the deadline you need to meet. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will now proceed with bill introduction.

CLERK: Madam President, new bills. (Read LBs 1123-1126 for the first time by title. See pages 324-26 of the Legislative Journal.) That is all I have, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We will now proceed with General File, LB 671.

CLERK: Madam President, LB 671 was a bill originally introduced by Senators Landis, Ashford and Bernard-Stevens, and Senator Beutler, and Senator Nelson. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 23 of 1991. At that time it was referred to the Judiciary Committee for public hearing. Madam President, on March 27, Senator Landis offered a motion to place LB 671 on General File pursuant to Rule 3, Section 19(b). On April 3rd, that motion prevailed. The bill is now pending before the Legislature.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Landis, recognize you for opening on the bill.

SENATOR LANDIS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, LB 671 is the living will bill. It is here because it was pulled from the Judiciary Committee at the end of last session, and because it was pulled, it has not had that bill drafting effect that can happen in a committee. There are a couple of areas that need to be changed. One of them is a section, the penalty section, which needs to harmonize levels of penalties which was a typo. Secondly, there is a definition of "persistent vegetative state" that should be included in the bill. In other words, there are a few housekeeping details that need to be done that we couldn't do because of the way that the bill got to the floor. But the bill is here and it has four basic ideas in it. First, it makes clear that we recognize and place into statute a recognition of a common law right and the constitutional rights of people to direct their own medical treatment. And that as far as we are concerned as the State of Nebraska, the standards to meet those common law rights and